



5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Paul M. Davis *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/050,048

Filed: January 17, 2002

For: **Closure System**

Confirmation No.: 1191

Art Unit: 3728

Examiner: To be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1073.9370001/DKSC/RLP

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net

addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Preliminary to any action on the merits, Applicants respectfully request the following changes be made:

In the Claims:

Please add the following claims:

2. (new) The footwear of claim 1, further comprising at least one strap formed of said material extending from at least one of a medial side and lateral side of a throat region of said upper, wherein said at least one strap is removably fastened to said portion of said upper located on the other of said medial side and said lateral side.

3. (new) The footwear of claim 2, wherein said at least one strap is formed as a unitary structure with said portion of said upper comprising at least a portion of said throat region of said upper from which said at least one strap extends.

4. (new) The footwear of claim 2, wherein at least two straps extend from said throat region of said upper with at least one strap extending from said medial side and one strap extending from said lateral side.

5. (new) The footwear of claim 1, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises said throat region of said upper.

6. (new) The footwear of claim 5, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises a region extending from said throat region to said sole of said upper.

7. (new) The footwear of claim 6, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises the entire upper.

8. (new) The footwear of claim 2, further comprising at least one heel strap extending from said portion of said upper on at least one of said medial and lateral sides, wherein said at least one heel strap extends behind the heel of a wearer and is removably fastened to said portion of upper of said footwear on the other of said medial and lateral sides.

9. (new) The footwear of claim 8, wherein at least one heel strap is removably fastened behind the heel of a wearer of said footwear to at least another heel strap from the other of said medial and lateral sides.

10. (new) The footwear of claim 1, wherein said material is a single-ply material.

11. (new) Footwear comprising:

a sole,

an upper having a medial side and lateral side attached to said sole of which at least a portion of said upper comprises a material with a first side and a second side, said first side comprising a plurality of hooks and said second side of said material comprising a pile,

at least one strap formed of said material extending from at least one of said medial side and lateral side of said upper and removably fastened to said portion of said upper located on the other of said medial side and said lateral side of said upper.

12. (new) The footwear of claim 11, wherein said at least one strap is formed as a unitary structure with said portion of said upper comprising at least said throat region on said side from which said at least one strap extends.

13. (new) The footwear of claim 11, wherein at least two straps extend from said throat region of said upper with at least one strap extending from said medial side and one strap extending from said lateral side.

14. (new) The footwear of claim 11, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises said throat region of said upper.

15. (new) The footwear of claim 14, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises a region extending from said throat region to said sole of said upper.

16. (new) The footwear of claim 15, wherein said portion of said upper substantially comprises the entire upper.

17. (new) The footwear of claim 11, further comprising at least one heel strap extending from said portion of said upper on at least one of said medial and lateral sides, wherein said at least one heel strap extends behind the heel of a wearer and is removably fastened to said portion of upper of said footwear on the other of said medial and lateral sides.

18. (new) The footwear of claim 17, wherein at least one heel strap is removably fastened behind the heel of a wearer of said footwear to at least another heel strap from the other of said medial and lateral sides.

19. (new) The footwear of claim 11, wherein said material is a single-ply material.

20. (new) An article of clothing comprising:
an area with an opening for entrance and enclosure of at least a portion of a human,
wherein at least a portion of said area comprises a material with a first side and a second side, said first side comprising a plurality of hooks and said second side comprising a pile,
whereby said first and second side are removably fastened to close said area.

21. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said area is an arm cuff.

22. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said area is a leg cuff.

23. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said area is a waistband.

24. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said portion of said area comprises a first end and a second end of said area, wherein said first end wraps around said portion of said human and is removably fastened to said second end.

25. (new) The article of clothing of claim 24, wherein said area further comprises a slot through which one of said first and second ends extends and is removably fastened to said other of first and second ends.

26. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said area entirely comprises a single piece of said material.

27. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said area is a front portion of an article of clothing.

28. (new) The article of clothing of claim 27, wherein said article of clothing is a shirt.

29. (new) The article of clothing of claim 27, wherein said article of clothing is a jacket.

30. (new) The article of clothing of claim 27, wherein said article of clothing is pants.

31. (new) The article of clothing of claim 27, wherein said article of clothing is shorts.

32. (new) The article of clothing of claim 27, wherein said front portion comprises a left side and a right side, wherein at least one strap formed of said material extends from at least one of said left side and right side of said front portion and is removably fastened to said portion of said area located on the other of said right side and said left side.

33. (new) The article of clothing of claim 32, wherein said at least one strap is formed as a unitary structure with said portion of said area from which said at least one strap extends.

34. (new) The article of clothing of claim 32, wherein at least two straps extend from said area with at least one strap extending from said left side and one strap extending from said right side.

36. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said portion of said area substantially comprises the entire article of clothing.

37. (new) The article of clothing of claim 20, wherein said material is a single-ply material.

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-37 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 11 and 20 being the independent claims. New claims 2-37 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



David K. S. Cornwell
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 31,944

Date: 4-15-02

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

In the Claims

Claims 2-37 have been added.